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Sen. Van Woerkom's bill to speed delivery of Friend of the Court payments passed by Senate

LANSING – The Senate passed a bill today to help custodial parents care for their children by requiring the state to deliver Friend of the Court payments electronically by direct deposit or through a debit card system, said Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom, R-Norton Shores.

“Streamlining the delivery of Friend of the Court payments will create a reliable, steady source of income for custodial parents,” said Van Woerkom, a bill’s sponsor. “The old adage – ‘the check is in the mail’ – should no longer apply to payments that provide food and clothing for children in Michigan.”

Senate Bill 1319 would eliminate the distribution of Friend of the Court payments through paper checks and employ new technology, similar to technology currently used to distribute benefits through the Family Independence Agency.

Senate Bill 1319 will now be considered by House of Representatives.

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